(ii) Nine school buildings have been completed.

(iii) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is implementing Adolescent Education Programme which includes life skill training.

(iv) Computer-aided teaching has been imparted in several schools.

Financial assistance for computer education in Kerala

1385. SHRI N.K.PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala to extend financial assistance towards the computer education plan as a part of IT at School projects;

(b) whether Government have discontinued the scheme "Computer Literacy and Studies is Schools" intending to extend computer education in schools and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would consider to extend financial assistance to the Government of Kerala for IT at schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education has launched the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) @ Schools Scheme in December, 2004 by merging the revised Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) Scheme and the Educational Technology (ET) Scheme, to promote computer literacy in Government and Government aided Secondary and Senior Secondary schools in the country.

During 2005-2006, an amount of Rs. 625.00 lakh has been sanctioned to the Government of Kerala for imparting Computer Education in 125 schools.

Cooking cost for mid-day meal

†1386. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only one rupee per sutdent is being paid for preparing the mid-day meal being served to students in schools;

(b) whether this results in low quality; and

(c) the measures being taken to improve the quality of mid-day meal?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Under the Revised MDM Scheme effected from September, 2004, assistance for meeting cooking cost @Re. 1/- per child per school day is provided as Central assistance. States are expected to supplement Central assistance with there own resource to ensure a hygienic mid-day meal having variety and wholesomeness. Many States are already contributing substantially. Central Government is constantly urging States to make adequate contribution, over and above the Central assistance.

UGC grant to universities and colleges In Punjab

1387. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grant has been received by the universities and colleges in Punjab State from the UGC;

(b) the details of the criteria for receiving such grants; and

(c) the number of degree colleges which are not in receipt of UGC grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) University Grants Commission provides financial assistance to eligible universities and colleges which are recognized under Section 2 (f) and 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956 as per guidelines on various schemes.

(c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, there are 3 colleges of Punjab State which have not been included under Section 12 (B) of the UGC Act and as such these colleges are not fit to receive UGC grant.

Computer education in Uttaranchai

1388. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend financial assistance to the State of Uttaranchai for speeding computer education in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof with amounts of financial assistance released during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise, and